Pilot Project under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

1107. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI ANANDIBEN JETHABHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criterial fixed for inclusion of States under the pilot project under Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme in States;

(b) whether it is a fact that Govern ment of Gujarat has requested the Union Government for inclusion of the State for the benefit of 18,39,001 farmers of the State;

(c) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor stating the nanfes of various States included under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) States/ Districts for the implementation of Ex-perimental Crop Insurance Scheme (ECIS) have been selected keeping in view the operation of the existing Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (COS) the States, number of small and marginal farmers and economic backwardness of the State/district.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The State Government has been informed that as the scheme is to be implemented on an experimental basis all the States/districts cannot be covered at this stage. The States covered under the propose scheme are Andhra Pradesh, As sam, Bihar, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Tamil Nadu.

Safe use of Pesticides in Agriculture

1108. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAM-CHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the plan of Government for informing the farmers about the safe and effective use of pesticides in agriculture;

(b) whether there is 'any efforts to educate; farmers in this area; and

(c) the steps likely to be taken to reach this information to the doorsteps of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) Steps being taken by the Government for informing farmers about safe and effective use of pesticides in agriculture include:—

(i) Registration of safer and effective pesticides is compulsory under the provisions of Insecticides Act, 1968 and Rules made under the Act;

(ii) Prescribing various kind of safety precautions by the Registration Committee for the benefit of farmers;

(iii) Requirement of each container of pesticides to have leaflets in Hindi and English and one of the regional languages indicating recommended use desage for effective use of pesticides for control of pests in agriculture as well as safety measures in handing pesticides for the benefit of farmers.

(iv) Extension efforts of the State Departments of Agriculture to inform farmers about the safe. and effective use of pesticides.

(v) Organisation of regular prog-rammes on safe and effective use of pesticides before Rabi and Kharif